

Safety." The 1995 and 1996 conferences brought together representatives from the principal Federal and State food safety organizations who discussed their views on the best ways to apply limited resources to improve farm-to-table food safety.

This year's conference will explore ways in which Federal and State partnerships can be organized to maximize valuable resources and facilitate the management of food safety concerns at the State and local levels. California, which has developed successful partnerships with Federal agencies, will highlight some of its experiences. Other States also are encouraged to discuss their recent initiatives in farm-to-table food safety.

Representatives from USDA, FDA, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and State food safety agencies have been invited to participate and discuss other topics of mutual interest.

Done at Washington, DC on October 24, 1997.

**Thomas J. Billy,**  
*Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 97-29036 Filed 10-31-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

#### Designations for the Idaho (ID), Lewiston (ID), and the State of Utah Areas

**AGENCY:** Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** GIPSA announces the designation of Idaho Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Pocatello), Lewiston Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Lewiston), and the Utah Department of Agriculture (Utah) to provide official services under the United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (Act).

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** December 1, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647-S, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-3604.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Janet M. Hart, telephone 202-720-8525.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and

Departmental Regulation do not apply to this action.

In the June 2, 1997, **Federal Register** (62 FR 29707), GIPSA asked persons interested in providing official services in the geographic areas assigned to Pocatello, Lewiston, and Utah to submit an application for designation. Applications were due by July 1, 1997. Pocatello, Lewiston, and Utah, the only applicants, each applied for designation to provide official services in the entire area currently assigned to them.

Since Pocatello, Lewiston, and Utah were the only applicants for the respective areas, GIPSA did not ask for comments on the applicants.

GIPSA evaluated all available information regarding the designation criteria in Section 7(f)(1)(A) of the Act and, according to Section 7(f)(1)(B), determined that Pocatello, Lewiston, and Utah are able to provide official services in the geographic areas for which they applied. Effective December 1, 1997, and ending November 30, 2000, Pocatello, Lewiston, and Utah are designated to provide official services in the geographic areas specified in the June 2, 1997, **Federal Register**.

Interested persons may obtain official services by contacting Pocatello at 208-233-8303, Lewiston at 208-746-0451, and Utah at 801-392-2292.

**Authority:** Pub. L. 94-582, 90 Stat. 2867, as amended (7 U.S.C. 71 et seq.).

Dated: October 24, 1997.

**Neil E. Porter,**

*Director, Compliance Division.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

#### Opportunity to Comment on the Applicant for the Northeast Indiana (IN) Region.

**AGENCY:** Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** GIPSA requests comments on the applicant for designation to provide official services in part of the geographic area currently assigned to East Indiana Grain Inspection, Inc. (East Indiana).

**DATES:** Comments must be postmarked, or sent by telecopier (FAX) by December 2, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments must be submitted in writing to USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647-S, 1400 Independence Avenue,

S.W., Washington, DC 20250-3604. Telecopier (FAX) users may send comments to the automatic telecopier machine at 202-690-2755, attention: Janet M. Hart. All comments received will be made available for public inspection at the above address located at 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., during regular business hours.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Janet M. Hart, telephone 202-720-8525.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this action.

In the August 21, 1997, **Federal Register** (62 FR 44439), GIPSA asked persons interested in providing official services in the Northeast Indiana area, currently assigned to East Indiana, to submit an application for designation. There was one applicant: Northeast Indiana Grain Inspection, Inc., a proposed organization to be established by Steve Walker to be located at Hoagland, Indiana, applied for designation to provide official services in the Northeast Indiana region. The Northeast Indiana region consists of the following geographic area, in the State of Indiana:

Bounded on the North by the northern Lagrange and Steuben County lines;

Bounded on the East by the eastern Steuben, De Kalb, Allen, and Adams, County lines;

Bounded on the South by the southern Adams and Wells County lines; and

Bounded on the West by the western Wells County line; the southern Huntington and Wabash County lines; the western Wabash County line north to State Route 114; State Route 114 northwest to State Route 19; State Route 19 north to Kosciusko County; the western and northern Kosciusko County lines; the western Noble and Lagrange County lines.

The following grain elevator, located outside of the above contiguous geographic area, is part of this geographic area assignment: E. M. P. Grain, Payne, Paulding County, Ohio (located inside Lima Grain Inspection Service, Inc.'s, area).

GIPSA is publishing this notice to provide interested persons the opportunity to present comments concerning the applicant. Commenters are encouraged to submit reasons and pertinent data for support or objection to the designation of this applicant. All comments must be submitted to the